

CRANSTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

MONDAY, MARCH 17, 2008

WESTERN HILLS MIDDLE SCHOOL

400 PHENIX AVENUE

EXECUTIVE SESSION: 6:00 P.M.

PUBLIC SESSION: 7:00 P.M.

AGENDA

I. Call to Order – 6:00 p.m. Convene to Executive Session pursuant to RI State Laws PL 42-46-5(a)(1) Personnel and PL 42-46-5(a)(2) Collective Bargaining and Litigation (possible litigation – Caruolo Action)

II. Executive Session

III. Call to Order – Public Session

IV. Roll Call / Quorum

V. Executive Session Minutes Sealed – March 17, 2008

VI. Minutes of Previous Meetings Approved – February 4, 2008; February 11, 2008; February 25, 2008; February 27, 2008

VII. Public Acknowledgements / Communications

1. Auditor's Presentation of the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report of the City of Cranston for Year Ended June 30, 2007

VIII. Chairperson Communications

IX. Superintendent Communications

X. School Committee Member Communications

XI. Public Hearing

a. Students (Agenda/Non-agenda Items)

b. Members of the Public (Agenda Matters Only)

XII. Consent Agenda / Consent Calendar

SPONSORED BY THE COMMITTEE

NO. 08-3-14 - Whereas, talented art students in grades 7 through 12 in middle, junior and senior high schools of Rhode Island had an opportunity to win recognition for themselves and their school by participating in The Scholastic Art Awards of 2008, and

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Whereas, this competition is sponsored regionally by Fidelity

Investments in cooperation with the Rhode Island Art Education Association and Rhode Island College and conducted nationally by The Scholastic Art and Writing Awards, and

Whereas, approximately 125 Silver Keys have been awarded for outstanding work on the regional level, and 75 Gold Key finalists have been selected and will be forwarded to New York City for the national competition where they will compete with finalists from over sixty other regions across the United States, and

Whereas, five entries have been selected as the outstanding entries to be given the American Vision Award of \$100, and Esternesha Marzan, an eighth grade student at Park View Middle School is one of the recipients. This is the tenth year that such a distinction has been bestowed upon a student in the Cranston Public Schools, and

Whereas, students in Cranston Public Schools earned fourteen Gold Key Awards, nineteen Silver Key Awards, one Portfolio Nomination, and an American Vision Award,

Be it RESOLVED that these talented artists be recognized by the Cranston School Committee for their outstanding accomplishments, and

Be it further RESOLVED that they be presented with a copy of this Resolution signed by the members of the Cranston School

Committee.

CRANSTON HIGH SCHOOL EAST

Lindsay Amoroso Gold Key Drawing

Caitlin Cannon Gold Key Painting

Leonardo DeLuzio Gold Key Animation

Leonardo DeLuzio Silver Key Graphic Design

Joshua Freedman Gold Key Sculpture

Joshua Freedman Fine Arts Portfolio Nominee

Ryan Lariviere Silver Key Painting

Carlton Lonergan Gold Key Drawing

David Nikitskiy Silver Key Ceramics

CRANSTON HIGH SCHOOL WEST

Kimberly Enos Silver Key Drawing

Elinor Wollenweber Silver Key Graphic Design

Ariana Colapietro Silver Key Graphic Design

Rachel McCrystal Silver Key Mixed Media

Kaitlin Malloy Gold Key Drawing

Kaitlin Malloy Fine Arts Portfolio Nominee

Sara Pollard Gold Key Drawing

Sara Pollard Silver Key Painting

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BAIN MIDDLE SCHOOL

Victor Lei Gold Key Painting

Stephanie Diaz Silver Key Painting

PARK VIEW MIDDLE SCHOOL

Esternesha Marzan Gold Key Printmaking

Esternesha Marzan American Vision Printmaking

Samantha Companatico Gold Key Printmaking

Caitlin Souza Gold Key Printmaking

Leazia Berry Gold Key Printmaking

Vanessa Robley Gold Key Ceramics

Ryan Marshall Silver Key Drawing

Talya Fischbach Silver Key Drawing

Lyza Baum Silver Key Graphic Design

Hannah Achadinha Silver Key Drawing

Michelle Peralta Silver Key Ceramics

WESTERN HILLS

Jennifer Arraial Silver Key Painting

Klaryssia Gasbarro Silver Key Apparel

Brianna Stravato Silver Key Mixed Media

Kelsey Swanson Gold Key Sculpture

Rachel Vierra Silver Key Painting

Michael Musco Silver Key Mixed Media

SPONSORED BY THE COMMITTEE

NO. 08-3-15 - Whereas, each year approximately 2,500 junior and

senior high school students from the State of Rhode Island audition for the Rhode Island Music Educators' All-State Ensembles, and approximately 600 students are chosen, and

Whereas, forty-five Cranston students were chosen, which is an exceptionally large number of students,

Be it RESOLVED that these talented musicians be recognized by the Cranston School Committee for their outstanding accomplishments, and

Be it further RESOLVED that they be presented with a copy of this Resolution signed by the members of the Cranston School Committee.

**Junior Division Honors Chorus Senior Division All-State Chorus
Alyssa Males Western Hills Rachel Muncy Cranston East
Valerie Maccarone Cranston West Matthew Baker Cranston West
Mark Gauvin Cranston West**

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**Junior Division All-State Chorus Brendan Macera Cranston West
Lisa Castore Western Hills Amanda Neves Cranston West
Sudha Panneerselvam Cranston West**

Junior Division Honors Band

Allison LaPlante Western Hills Senior Division All-State Band
Allyson Marino Western Hills Wendy Kalver Cranston East
Rebecca Scialabba Western Hills Sara Larrabee Cranston East
Emily Tilton Western Hills Jamil Jorge Cranston East
Kelsey Alpaio Cranston East Mark Gauvin Cranston West
Aubrey Olstead Cranston East Laura Johnson Cranston West
Tyler Matthewson Cranston West

Senior Division All-State Orchestra

***Rachel Milito Cranston East**

Junior Division All-State Band *Joanna Phillips Cranston East
Gina Savella Cranston West Rachel Damiani Cranston West
Jiyeong Hwang Cranston West

Junior Division All-State Orchestra *Vanessa Landes Cranston West
Erica Bachand Park View Nicole Leporacci Cranston West
Siri Cosper Park View Johnna Mernick Cranston West
***Adrienne Gendron Park View Robert Millerick Cranston West**
Emma Stanton Park View Amanda Neves Cranston West
John Castore Western Hills Elizabeth Ruggieri Cranston West
Ian Chalmers Western Hills Meaghan Sullivan Cranston West
Jonathan Gelfuso Western Hills
Hwang Hyeyeon Western Hills

***Kate Nottage Western Hills**
Douglas Davis Cranston East
Abby Van Horn Cranston East
Alec Nadeau Cranston West
Joshua Nottage Cranston West

***Received number one rankings in the entire State on their instrument.**

SPONSORED BY THE COMMITTEE AND ADMINISTRATION

NO. 08-3-16 - Whereas, on Monday, January 28, 2008, a seventh grade student at Park View Middle School, was retrieved from the bottom of the Park View swimming pool, and

Whereas, Michael Crudale, a physical education teacher and certified swim instructor in Cranston Public Schools for the past fourteen years, and Robert Bouchard, a physical education teacher and certified swim instructor in Cranston Public Schools for the past eighteen years, saved a seventh grade student's life by retrieving her from the pool and administering CPR and calling 911, and

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Whereas, the student was alert and responsive and then taken to Hasbro Children's Hospital for observation and subsequently released,

Be it RESOLVED that the Cranston School Committee and Administration commend, congratulate, and honor Michael Crudale and Robert Bouchard for saving the life of this young person, and

Be it further RESOLVED that they receive a copy of this Resolution signed by the members of the Cranston School Committee.

ADMINISTRATION

PERSONNEL

NO. 08-3-17 – RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following certified personnel be appointed for the remainder of the 2007-2008 school year:

Karen Burns, salary to be at the second step of the prevailing salary schedule

Education – Rhode Island College, BA

Experience – Cranston Public Schools' Substitute

Certification – Secondary Mathematics

Assignment – Cranston High School East, 1.0 FTE, Mathematics

Effective Date of Employment – March 17, 2008

Authorization – Replacement

Fiscal Note: 11311012 512100

NO. 08-3-18 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following certified personnel be appointed as substitutes on a temporary basis as needed:

Melissa Messa Special Education, Elementary/Middle/

Secondary

Bernadette Ross Family and Consumer Science

Shelley Tragar Guidance, K-12

James Ward Chemistry

Kayal O'Malley Elementary

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NO. 08-3-19 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the retirement of the following certified personnel be accepted:

**Donna Vigneau-Carlson, Administrative Director of
Leadership and Professional Development
Central Administration
Effective Date: April 4, 2008**

**Lesley Doonan, Speech and Language Pathologist
Special Services
Effective Date: June 30, 2008**

**Fred Menna, Health and Physical Education Teacher
Cranston High School East
Effective Date: June 30, 2008**

**Anne Stickney, Speech and Language Pathologist
Special Services
Effective Date: June 30, 2008**

NO. 08-3-20 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the resignation of the following certified personnel be accepted:

**Billiegene Lavallo, Teacher
Cranston High School West
Effective Date: February 22, 2008**

NO. 08-3-21 - Whereas, a number of administrative positions are being eliminated due to the reorganization of the middle schools and elementary schools resulting in a reduction of administrators, and there are more qualified administrators who can meet the needs of our district,

Be it RESOLVED, that said certified administrators' contracts not be renewed at the close of the school year under provision of Title 16 of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island, and

Be it further RESOLVED that the Superintendent notify those certified administrators of the Committee's action to terminate their employment.

NO. 08-3-22 – RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following individual be appointed as a volunteer coach:

Gary Bucci Cranston High School West Baseball

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NO. 08-3-23 – RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following individuals be appointed as athletic coaches:

Ryan Kavanagh, Assistant Boys' Outdoor Track, Cranston High School West

Step – 7

Class – D

Playing Competition – High School/College

Experience – Cranston West Coach, Outdoor Track

Certification – Rhode Island Coaches Certification; CPR/AED/First Aid Certified

Justine Boisvert, Assistant Girls' Outdoor Track, Cranston High

School West

Step – 5

Class – D

Playing Competition – High School/College

Experience – Cranston High School West Volunteer Girls' Indoor Track

Certification – Rhode Island Coaches Certification; CPR/AED/First Aid

NO. 08-3-24 – RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, said non-certified personnel be recalled from layoff, and

Be it further RESOLVED that the Superintendent notify those individuals of the Committee's actions.

NO. 08-3-25 – RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following non-certified personnel be appointed as substitutes on a temporary basis as needed:

SECRETARIES

Amy Harrington

Janice Dawley

NO. 08-3-26 - Whereas, funding for certain non-certified administrative positions is not assured for the 2008-2009 school year,

Be it RESOLVED, that said non-certified administrator be terminated at the close of the school year, and

Be it further RESOLVED that the Superintendent notify this non-certified administrator of the Committee's action to terminate this non-certified administrator's employment.

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GRANTS

NO. 08-3-27 - RESOLVED, that the Cranston Public Schools submit the following grants:

Rhode Island Department of Education

21ST Century CCLC Continuation Grant \$91,410

Bain Middle School and Gladstone School

E2T2 Model Classroom Grant \$62,700

Park View Middle School

Rhode Island Foundation

Investing in Proven Educational Leadership to Impact \$ 3,365

High School Reform

Jean Campbell, Administrative Director

Secondary Reform and Special Projects (professional development at Harvard University)

EDS Technology

Making Standards Practical by Using Technology \$ 1,500
Stadium School

EDS Technology Grant - SmartBoard \$ 1,500
Horton Program

EDS Technology – LCD Projector and Laptop computer \$ 1,500
Horton Program

HomeTown Helper

Climbing and Sliding into the Future \$12,400
Horton School

Building a Better City Together \$10,000
Industrial Technology

Donors Choose

Exploring Literature with Picture Books \$ 211
Waterman School

Cut, Paste, Create with Our Library Program! \$ 180
Dutemple School

Ezra Jack Keats Mini Grant

We Both Read \$ 493.75

Arlington School

Lowe's Toolbox for Education

School Library Furniture \$ 5,000

Dutemple School

Let's Build a Playground Together \$ 5,000

Horton School

Digi-Block Grant

Your Place or Mine? \$ 2,365

Waterman School

Cranston Community Development Block Grant

Kidventure and Bain +2 After School Programs \$18,840

Bain Middle School and Gladstone School

Daily Attendance at School is a MUST for Success! \$15,460

Gladstone School

BUSINESS

NO. 08-3-28 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Cranston School Committee accepts the school district's 2006-2007 Financial Audit as presented in the Auditor's report of the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report of the City of Cranston, Rhode Island for the year ended June 30, 2007.

NO. 08-3-29 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Cranston School Committee accepts the school district's 2006-2007 Federal Single Audit of the City of Cranston, Rhode Island for the year ended June 30, 2007.

NO. 08-3-30 - RESOLVED, that the following purchases be approved:

**Vacuum Cleaning of Boilers and Insurance Inspection Preparation in the amount of \$9,597.00 (08-09); \$10,076 (09-10); and \$10,580 (10-11).
(Pending the availability of funding)**

Number of bids issued 12

Number of bids received 2

Snow Plowing awarded to Jen Reality as per the bid specifications (see attached). (Pending the availability of funding)

Number of bids issued 11

Number of bids received 4

Pumping of Waste Water, Grease Traps, and Sewer Ejector Tanks in the amount of \$9,710.50 (08-09); \$9,773.50 (09-10); and \$9773.50 (10-11). (Pending the availability of funding)

Number of bids issued 6

Number of bids received 1

Elevator Maintenance in the amount of \$30,000 per year for 2008-2009; 2009-2010 and 2010-2011. (Pending the availability of funding)

Number of bids issued 4

Number of bids received 3

Subscriptions in the amount of \$6,556.25. (Purchases are contingent upon the availability of funds.)

Number of bids issued 4

Number of bids received 4

Printed Forms in the amount of \$10,685.40. (Purchases are contingent upon the availability of funds.)

Number of bids issued 5

Number of bids received 2

Student Planners in the amount of \$24,719.50. (Purchases are contingent upon the availability of funds.)

Number of bids issued 10

Number of bids received 6

Trash Liners in the amount of \$19,410. (Purchases are contingent upon the availability of funds.)

Number of bids issued 17

Number of bids received 11

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Custodial supplies in the amount of \$104,017.56. (Purchases are contingent upon the availability of funds.)

Number of bids issued 22

Number of bids received 10

Athletic Supplies in the amount of \$22,220.04. (Purchases are contingent upon the availability of funds.)

Number of bids issued 22

Number of bids received 18

POLICY AND PROGRAM

NO. 08-3-31 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the 2008-2009 School Calendar be adopted.

NO. 08-3-32 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following Conferences/Field Trips of Long Duration be authorized:

Laura Albanese, Principal of Stone Hill School and Coordinator of the Enrichment Program, to travel to the University of Connecticut from July 14, 2008 through July 18, 2008 to attend the Confratute 2008 Conference (Summer Institute on Enrichment Learning and Teaching.

Steven Krous, teacher at Cranston High School West, and five students (National Ocean Sciences Bowl Team) to travel to Seward, Alaska to compete and attend the National Finals from April 24, 2008 through April 28, 2008.

Meaghan McGonagle, teacher, and Jessica Palumbo, office technician, both at the Cranston Area Career & Technical Center, and approximately fifteen students to travel to Atlanta, Georgia from April 25, 2008 to April 30, 2008 to compete in the National DECA Competition and to attend leadership/career development conferences.

TABLED RESOLUTION

NO. 08-2-15 - RESOLVED, that Policy No. 5113, Student Attendance for Middle and High School, and accompanying regulations be amended for first reading.

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XIII. Action Calendar / Action Agenda

XIV. New Business

XV. Public Hearing on Non-agenda Items

XVI. Announcement of Future Meetings

XVII. Adjournment

School Committee members who are unable to attend this meeting are asked to notify the Chairman in advance.

Any changes in the agenda pursuant to RIGL 42-46-6(e) will be posted on the school district's web site at www.cpsed.net, Cranston Public Schools' administration building, 845 Park Ave., Cranston, RI; and Cranston City Hall, 869 Park Ave., Cranston, RI and will be electronically filed with the Secretary of State at least forty-eight

hours (48) hours in advance of the meeting.

Notice Posted: March 13, 2008 / Cranston Herald

5113

STUDENTS

ATTENDANCE

STUDENT ATTENDANCE POLICY

Attendance is mandated by Rhode Island General Laws 16-19-1. Regular attendance is absolutely necessary for academic success, as it develops a sense of responsibility, which is indispensable for survival in the workplace.

Policy Adopted: March 20, 1972 CRANSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Policy Amended: July 16, 2007 CRANSTON, RI

Resolution No.: 07-7-21

Policy Amended:

Resolution No.:

STUDENTS 5113(a)

MINIMUM ATTENDANCE EXPECTATIONS

Students in Middle and High School must be in regular attendance for a minimum of 90% of their course work per quarter. Students with excessive (more than five (5) unexcused class absences) will have their term grade reduced by 10 points of their quarterly grade. Students enrolled in minor classes (3 meetings per cycle) will receive a 10 point deduction for more than three (3) unexcused class absences. Students in Middle School in Unified Arts classes will receive a 10 point deduction for more than 3 unexcused class absences.

The following shall not be considered absences and shall not count against students:

- Absence from class due to in-school or out-of-school suspension**
- Absence from class due to attendance at school-sponsored events**
- Absence from class due to attendance at scheduled meetings with school personnel**
- Absences from class due to religious observance**

The following excused absences determined by the regulations of the Truancy Court:

- Illness confirmed by a Doctor's note within 2 days of return to**

school

- **Dental appointments confirmed by a Dentist's note within 2 days of return to school**
- **Family bereavement confirmed with a newspaper obituary or death notice**
- **Legal/court obligations confirmed by a note from the courts**
- **Verifiable college and military appoints, prior permission from the Guidance Department and appointment verification forms are required (High School)**

All notes must be submitted within two days of the student's return to school.

Students that have absences exempted from counting against the 90% minimum requirement are still required to complete and turn in all make-up work missed due to their absence.

ABSENCE, TARDINESS AND DISMISSALS

1. Parents should call the school at 270-8049 for Cranston West, 270-8126 for Cranston East, 270-8030 for Western Hills, 270-8090 for Park View, or 270-8010 for Hugh B. Bain to report a student's absence.

STUDENTS

5113(b)

ABSENCE, TARDINESS AND DISMISSALS (CONTINUED)

- 2. Students who are absent or suspended will not be allowed to report to school or to attend any school activity during the period of absence or suspension.**
- 3. If a student is absent (unexcused) from a class or classes in excess of five (5) times per quarter, the teacher will lower the student's quarterly grade by ten points.**
- 4. Absences or dismissals by the school nurse are considered excused.**
- 5. Family vacations during school time will not be excused by the School Committee Policy unless previously approved by the school department.**
- 6. Parents wishing to appeal an attendance-related grade reduction should submit a written appeal to the Administration in the following order: Assistant Principal, Principal, Superintendent, and School Committee.**
- 7. Excessive tardiness to school is unacceptable. Students who accumulate more than three (3) unexcused tardies per semester will receive detention for each subsequent tardy according to school department policy. Should excessive tardiness become a serious or chronic problem, a student may be assigned Alternate Discipline Program, could be suspended out of school, Saturday Detention, or receive social probation. All days tardy beyond the 3 per semester will result in disciplinary consequences unless excused with verifiable documentation (i.e., doctor's note, dental note, legal obligation, etc.). All notes must be submitted on the day the student**

is tardy or least by the next school day.

A student who arrives late to class more than half way through the class, regardless of the class, will be considered absent from that class.

8. Students with unexcused tardies after 11:00 am are considered absent and are ineligible to participate in athletics or extra curricular activities on that day. Should the tardiness occur on the last day before a weekend, the student will be likewise, ineligible to participate in school related activities or athletics.

9. Personal family appointments, which can be scheduled during non-school hours, will be included in absence and tardy totals.

10. The classroom teacher will assign students who are tardy to class without an acceptable or verifiable reason appropriate disciplinary action. Students who are habitually tardy will be referred to the administration.

11. Students who miss a class period or a whole day of school without permission will be considered truant. All students who are determined to be truant will be subject to disciplinary action and will receive no credit (zero) for all work missed or due during the truancy.

ABSENCE, TARDINESS AND DISMISSALS (CONTINUED)

12. Students may be dismissed from school with a parental note, with an acceptable reason. All dismissals will be excused only with verifiable documentation by a doctor, dentist, legal obligation, death, religious observance, etc. These notes from verifiable sources or appointment verification forms must be turned in to the Main Office by the next school day that the student is present.

13. Students dismissed from school are ineligible to participate in athletics or extra curricular activities on that day or the ensuing weekend should it occur on the day before a weekend. Students may be allowed to participate in these situations with administrative approval.

14. For eligibility purposes with respect to extra curricular activities and athletics, students dismissed for medical, dental, legal appointments, etc., must have such dismissal pre-approved by an administrator or designee. Upon the student's return to school from the appointment, verification documentation must be turned in to the office or to the coach or activity advisor, if school has ended, to be eligible to participate (parental notes will not suffice.) Any student clinically dismissed by the nurse due to illness may not return to school and is ineligible to participate in athletics or school activities.

MAKE UP POLICY

A student absent from school from one (1) to three (3) days will have one (1) class meeting per absence to make up missed work beginning on the initial day they return to school.

For students absent or suspended from school for a period of more than three (3) days, school work may be requested by the parent/guardian. A twenty-four (24) hour notice for such requests is required and will be made available by teachers through the main office. Students suspended from school will be allowed to make up all work as dictated by this policy.

In the event that a student is absent on the day a long-term project/assignment is due, the grade for that assignment will be reduced at the discretion of the teacher. Should the student submit verifiable documentation for the absence (medical, dental note, etc.), the grade reduction may be waived.

Serious long-term illness make-up will be made up at the discretion of the teacher(s) and guidance counselor.

Any student that makes arrangements with a teacher to make-up work at an arranged time and fails to do so will be assigned a zero (0) for the work in question.

STUDENTS 5113(d)

FINAL EXAMS (HIGH SCHOOL)

A. Final exams are required in every course in grades 9 through 12. The final exam grade for each course will be weighted 15% of the final grade.

B. An exam schedule is published in June. Senior high school students are expected to report for their scheduled final exams and must remain in the exam room for the entire period. Depending on the schedule, students may be dismissed following their exams.

ATTENDANCE POLICY FOR EXAMS (HIGH SCHOOL)

- 1. Final exams will be administered in all courses. Seniors with a grade point average of 90 or above may be exempt from their final exam in the courses with that average.**
- 2. Should a student be tardy to an exam without an excuse or prior administrative approval, he/she will be admitted to the exam and allowed to take the exam during the remaining time in the exam period only.**
- 3. If a student is going to be absent from an exam and wishes to be granted the opportunity to take a make-up exam, a parent must contact the administration in writing or by phone (Main Office) prior to the start of the exam.**
- 4. If a student is absent from an exam and the administration has not been contacted in advance, the student will not be given a make-up exam and will receive a grade of zero.**
- 5. Make-up exams will be given at a time to be determined by the**

teacher.

6. All students must remain in the testing site until the conclusion of the exam period.

Regulations Adopted: March 20, 1972 CRANSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Regulations Revised: August 20, 1990 Cranston, Rhode Island

Regulations Revised: July 16, 2007

Resolution No.: 07-7-21

Regulations Revised:

Resolution No.: